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NEW MEDICAL MARIJUANA RULES POSTED
State incorporates public comment

The Arizona Department of Health Services published a new set of draft rules for the Medical Marijuana Program on its website today. The rules will be available for public comment and review until February 18th, including 4 public hearings. These draft rules contain several changes from the informal draft rules published in December, many of which came from the comments sent to the Department.

“This is very much an interactive process. We took what people said about the rules and worked them into the new draft, while still making sure it remains a *medical* marijuana program,” said Will Humble, ADHS Director. “The process is back in the public’s hands. Do they like what we have changed? Do these rules represent the program they want in Arizona, in their communities for decades to come? Now’s the time to tell us.”

The new draft rules require a physician who certifies a patient for medical marijuana to attest to having diagnosed or confirmed the relevant diagnosis. The draft rules provide for a geographic distribution of the dispensaries to provide easy access to dispensaries and limit the number of people who grow marijuana for themselves. The draft rules also outline how the Department will award dispensary certificates if there is more than one complete application for a specific CHAA.

The complete rules are available on the [ADHS website](#) along with the electronic comment form and a schedule of public hearings.